

Review of the ant genus *Rogeria* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) in Guyana

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Abstract

The myrmicine ant genus *Rogeria* in Guyana is reviewed. Using previously published records, older collections, and collections from recent leaf litter ant survey work, nine *Rogeria* species are now known from Guyana, with another two species that probably also occur in Guyana. Among these eleven species, a new species, *R. tsumani*, is here described, and four of them, including the new species, are new records for Guyana. A key to the species found in Guyana is provided, along with illustrations of all 11 species.

Keywords: biotic surveys, leaf litter, Myrmicinae, new species

Introduction

The rarely collected myrmicine ant genus *Rogeria* has a disjunct distribution, with 36 species previously known to occur in the New World and 3 species that are known from the Australasian region (Kugler 1994). *Rogeria* ants are cryptic in habit and specimens are primarily collected from leaf litter and rotten wood, usually through Berlese or Winkler sampling. Not much is known about their biology, except that nests have been taken in rotting logs, under rocks, and from the trunks of cacao trees (Kugler 1994).

Despite a recent revision of the genus by Kugler (1994), new species are still being discovered. Recent survey work in Guyana revealed a number of new records of *Rogeria* species for the country, along with the discovery of a new species collected by Neal Weber in 1936. Here we describe this new species and provide a review of the genus in Guyana.